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March 4, 2021

Ms. Bianca Handley U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California 94105

Subject: Discovery of an Unknown Vault with Unknown Fluid Contents NHOU

Dear Ms. Handley:

On February 23, 2021, during Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.'s (Wood) field work, Wood discovered a previously unknown vault in the southern portion of Lankershim Yard. Available records did not indicate the possibility of such a structure in this area and results from a geophysical survey associated with identifying subsurface utilities also did not indicate its presence. From our initial assessment, the top of the vault is approximately six feet below grade. Whatever cover had been over the vault is now gone. The overlying soil collapsed when a forklift was driven over it (fortunately, the driver was not injured). Pursuant to the 2017 Unilateral Administrative Order for Remedial Action (Section XIV: Delay in Performance), this letter is a formal follow-up to the email that I sent you on the day of the discovery.

Onsite personnel extended a tape measure into the vault and determined a depth of 16 feet to the surface where an unknown fluid is present, which visually appears to be oil. He advanced the tape measure a foot below the fluid surface but did not determine the total depth of the vault. It is not known whether the oil-like fluid is floating on water or if the vault is filled with only oil. A sample was not collected.

We anticipate that the vault contents will need to be characterized and removed; whether the vault itself will also need to be removed in its entirety or can be left in place cannot yet be determined. Characterization of the vault vicinity may also be needed.

Wood is actively evaluating how this effort will impact the Phase 1B construction schedule but currently anticipate that there will be a delay of several weeks before construction can proceed in this area. We will continue to provide updates in our Phase 1B monthly progress reports and will update the construction schedule as additional information become available.

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Please contact me at (510) 663-4163 or <u>michael.taraszki@woodplc.com</u> with any questions regarding this matter in the meantime.

Sincerely,

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.

Michael Taraszki, PG, CHG, PMP

Project Manager

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MT/mr

https://woodplc.sharepoint.com/teams/HON-NHOU/Shared Documents/General/09.0 Field-Construct Services/Phase 1B/scope-issues/out-of-scope/LADWP vault/notice_to_EPA/Unknown-Vault_notice to EPA.docx

Attachment: Two slides with photos and drawings of the vault and surrounding area

cc: Mr. Michael Heitmann

Mr. Benny Dehghi

Mr. Chuck Anthony

Mr. Phil McQuiston

Ms. Debbie Barrow

Mr. Pat Pontoriero

Mr. Kenn Conner

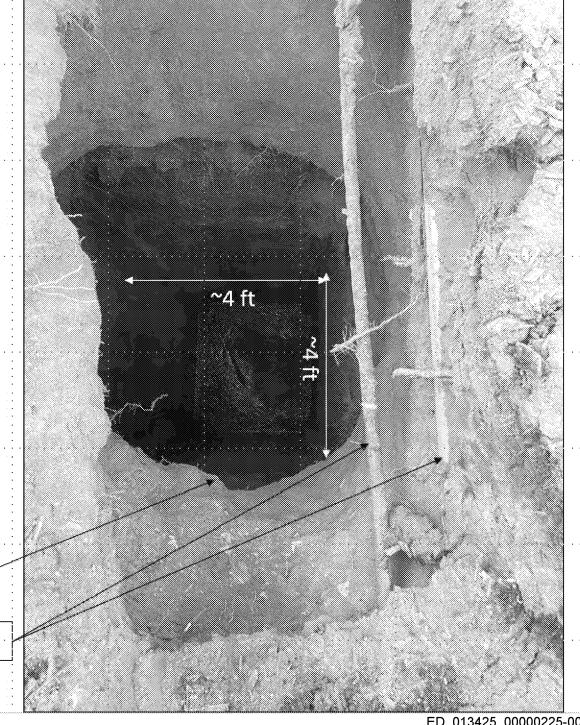
Mr. Colin Nyahay



At least one foot of oil (assumed) in vault, 16 ft bgs

Approximately six feet of cover over vault

Exposed water and gas line utilities



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